

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 18, 2002. Claims 1, 2, 12 to 14, 22, 25, 27, 28 and 33 to 35 are in the application, with Claims 1, 12 and 33 being the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that Claims 25, 27, 28, 29, 31 and 32 were deemed to contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1 to 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,379,335 (Griesmer); Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Griesmer in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,803,716 (Ammann); Claims 12 to 14, 30 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Griesmer; Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Griesmer in view of Ammann. In response, Claims 3, 11, 26 and 29 to 32 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter; Claims 1, 2, 12, 22, 25, 28 and 33 have been amended; and Claims 34 and 35 have been newly-added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention as recited by Claim 1 concerns an apparatus for radiographing an object. The apparatus includes an X-ray radiation unit for radiating X-ray; a grid arranged in a radiation path; a grid movement controller for changing a movement speed of the grid by changing a turn speed of a motor; and an imaging controller for controlling the X-ray radiation unit and the grid movement controller. The grid movement controller has a link mechanism for changing turn movement of the motor into straight movement of the grid. The imaging controller controls the radiation exposure time of the X-ray radiation unit and the turn speed of the motor, relating one to the other.

The present invention as recited by Claims 12 and 33 concerns a method for radiographing an object which includes the steps of: radiating X-ray; controlling movement of a grid, with a movement speed of the grid being changed by changing a turning speed of a motor; inputting method information relating to a radiographic method; and determining the turn speed of the motor in the controlling step and a radiation exposure time in the radiating step, based on the method information in the inputting step. In the controlling step, a link mechanism is used to change turn movement of the motor into straight movement of the grid.

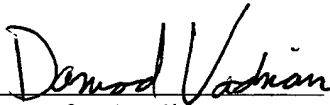
Griesmer is not seen to teach or suggest at least the feature of an imaging controller which controls the turning speed of the motor and the radiation exposure time of the X-ray radiation unit, relating one with the other (Claim 1), or the feature of a determining step in which the turn speed of the motor and the radiation exposure time are determined based on method information input (Claims 12 and 33). By virtue of these features, the moving speed of the grid can be controlled during radiation exposure, making it easier to prevent a striped pattern (moire pattern) from appearing in an image.

Ammann is not seen to remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Griesmer. Applicants therefore conclude that the applied references do not teach or suggest the claimed invention, either singly or in the combination proposed by the Office Action, and it is respectfully requested that the Section 103 rejections be withdrawn.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Damond Vadnais", written over a horizontal line.

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